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Unconscious of a mother's care,
No infant wretchedness she knew;
But as she felt the vernal air,
At once to full perfection grew.

Her slender form, ethereal light,
Her velvet-textured wings enfold,
With all the rainbow's colours bright,
And dropt with spots of burnish'd gold.

Trembling with joy awhile she stood,
And felt the sun's enlivening ray;
Drank from the skies the vital flood,
And wondered at her plumage gay.

And balanc'd oft her 'broidered wings,
Through fields of air prepared to sail,
Then on her vent'rous journey springs,
And floats along the rising gale.

Go, child of pleasure, range the fields,
Taste all the joys that spring can give,
Partake what bounteous summer yields,
And live whilst yet 'tis thine to live.

Go sip the rose's fragrant dew,
The lily's honied cup explore;
From flower to flower the search renew,
And rifle all the woodbine's store.

And let me trace thy vagrant flight,
Thy moments too of short repose,
And mark thee then with fresh delight,
Thy golden pinions ope and close.

But hark! whilst thus I musing stand,
Pours on the gale an airy note,
And breathing from a viewless band,
Soft silvery tones around me float!

They cease—but still a voice I hear,
A whisper'd voice of hope and joy,
"Thy hour of rest approaches near,
Prepare thee mortal!—thou must die!

"Yet start not—on thy closing eyes
Another day shall still unfold,
A sun of milder radiance rise,
A happier age of joy's untold.

"Shall the poor worm that shocks thy sight,
The humblest form in nature's train,
Thus rise in new born lustre bright,
And yet the emblem teach in vain?

"Ah where were once her golden eyes,
Her glittering wings of purple pride?
Conceal'd beneath a rude disguise,
A shapeless mass to earth allied.

"Like thee the hapless reptile liv'd,
Like thee he toil'd, like thee he spun,
Like thine his closing hour arrived,
His labours ceas'd, his web was done.

"And shalt thou, number'd with the dead,
No happier state of being know?
And shall no future morrow shed,
On thee a beam of brighter glow?

"Is this the bound of power divine,
To animate an insect frame;
Or shall not he who moulded thine,
Wake at his will the vital flame?

"Go, mortal! in thy reptile state,
Enough to know to thee is given;
Go, and the joyful truth relate;
Frail child of earth, high heir of heaven!"

REVIEW OF NEW PUBLICATIONS.

The Speech of Henry Brougham, esq. before the House of Commons, Friday, April 1, 1808, *in support of the Petitions from London, Liverpool and Manchester, against the Orders in Council. Taken in Shorthand by Mr. A. Frazer. London, printed by J. M'Creery, for J. Ridgway, Piccadilly,* 1808. p. p. 84.

Continued from p. 305, *No. IX.*

LET us see the effects which the British Orders produced, as well on the rates of insurance, as in cutting off the resources of the American trade with the continent of Europe, which flowed into Britain to pay for her manufactures: which mischief was effected by the act and deed of the Government at home, and not by the Berlin decree, or American embargo.

"*Now*, I may be allowed to allude on this branch of the case to the real and permanent variation that has at length taken place in the rate of insurance. It is *now* nothing extravagant, nor is it any misrepresentation, as it formerly was, to state that a great and steady rise has taken place in the premium. The witnesses, to whose evidence I formerly referred on this point, concur in stating, that a permanent rise has *now* taken place in the rate of insurance from this country to America, and back again, although not a considerable one: but that a great rise has taken place upon the insurance of neutral vessels bound from this country to the continent. Instead of doing it at six guineas, the premium now demanded is thirty-five guineas; and it appears from the evidence of Mr

White (an insurance broker, largely concerned in trade to the Continent—a smuggling trade, of which his answers lead us to believe that this witness knows a good deal more than he is willing to tell you) that he goes upon the 'change offering upwards of 35*l.* per cent to insure American vessels to Amsterdam, but that it cannot be done; in short, that this trade is as good as finished. The British clause has shared the same fate. That clause which formerly used to be valued at two or three guineas, by which an American was accustomed to be insured against the effects of British capture, costs now more than ninety guineas; in short, no British clause can now be under-written. So different is an English naval decree from a French one in its execution and effects! It is only for the purpose of showing this wide difference that I mention the fact. The French decree has been foolishly and falsely said to have raised the rate of insurance from two to three guineas, while the English ones, it is evident, have actually raised it from two to ninety guineas; and it is well known that at that rate nothing can be done.—Although the trade to the continent continued to go on in spite of the enemy's decrees, yet it would appear that the English orders in council are not of so little avail; they have at once cut up by the roots, the whole commerce of the country; they will not permit American vessels to go direct to France, nor to other parts of the continent, for they have created a refusal to under-write the risque of such a voyage; and this proves that it is one and the same thing for us to issue and to enforce our edicts, against our own trade; which France cannot touch a ton of by all her decrees.

"Sir, I have shown that the trade between America and the continent, is quite as essential to this country, as it is to America, inasmuch as we must lose two thirds of our payments the moment it ceases. But I must now remark that it is impossible we should get even that third part of our payment which remains, if the orders in council and the measures arising out of them continue to be acted upon. Mr. Bell says that as long as those orders subsist he may ship goods to America to the amount of the direct payment which comes over in American produce, but that this produce will be deprived of nine-tenths of its value; and therefore instead of continuing to trade to the amount of even one third, we cannot trade to the amount of the thirtieth or the three hundredth part of what we formerly did; for, unless we chuse to be paid in tobacco, which will lose nearly all its value, or cotton which will lose its whole value, or any thing else of no earthly use or worth, we have no prospect of continuing, even to the sorry amount of one third part, our former trade to America. Therefore, sir, I say that in every point of view in which we can look at this new system of commercial regulation, we see but one effect, namely, that of ruining and cutting off, root and branch, the whole of our traffic with the United States of America, or in other words, I may say, the whole of our foreign trade.

"An attempt has been made to impute this stoppage of the trade with America, not to our orders in council, but to the American embargo and non-importation act; and now I entreat the attention of the house while I endeavour to show that there is no reason whatever for imputing this failure to the American embargo. The evidence of Mr. Martin was directed to this purpose. After having explained that the orders for the spring shipment were generally as good as finished before the middle of January each year, it is only necessary for me to state that the news of the embargo did not reach those parts of the country likely to be affected by it before the middle of January; so that the orders for the last spring shipments could never have been touched by it. Mr. Martin states that it was previous to the 26th of the month of January that all shipments ought to have been prepared, or orders given, and that the defalcation for the last shipment had entirely taken place before that date. That defalcation amounted nearly to the whole extent; and he leaves you

to draw the inference, that it could have been owing solely to the orders in council. This gentleman having visited the town of Birmingham since the orders in council had been issued, and having inquired how the shipments there had been affected by them, he found they were doing nothing and meant to do nothing in regard to spring shipments.

"The testimony of Mr. James Palmer informs you that instead of paying to his workmen 200*l.* per week, he was under the necessity of reducing it to 50*l.* from November, though he only learnt the news of the Embargo in January.—With this short statement of that part of the case, I leave it to you, sir, to answer the question whether it be possible to confound by reason or ingenuity, or even by assertion (which has been so much more lavishly used than any thing else on the other side) to confound the effects of the American measures and our own.

"It would appear, sir, that without any evidence at all, one simple consideration is enough to show in what manner the orders in council, crossing, as Mr. Bell aptly expressed it, the French decrees, must have ruined our commerce with foreign parts, not only interrupting our trade with America, but also cutting off that great contraband trade which used formerly to be carried on through the Americans, between us and our enemies—softening the hardships of war, and making them fall as lightly upon us as on the enemy—on us to whom trade is every thing, as on him who, having little or none of his own, was most deeply interested in surrendering his share, could he but hope thereby to take from us ours.

"This short and summary view of the measure, even without the aid of the statement so satisfactorily set forth in the evidence before you, will, I trust, prove sufficiently decisive to entitle me to leave this branch of the argument without one further comment, and to affirm that I have completely demonstrated a proposition, at first sight rather parodoxical, that England has, by her own measures, effectually, strictly, *vigorously*, countersigned the enemy's edict."

Our author next proceeds to point out that the orders in council actually produced the embargo.

"In the second examination of Mr. Glennie, he states, that it was a perfectly well known fact, upon the Exchange of London, amongst mercantile men, a few days before the issuing of the Orders, that some strong measures would be taken by the government of the country to that effect; that this was matter of general and confident expectation; and particularly on the Saturday before many persons did pretend to give the details, which afterwards appeared in the gazette. So perfectly was he convinced of it, from all he heard, that on the 22d. of October he wrote to several of his correspondents in America, that a strong measure was to be adopted by the government of this country, which in all probability would, in some degree, affect the trade between America, this Country, and the Continent. He further states that these orders, when they did come forth, appeared to be pretty much of the nature that was expected. He does not say they were accurately of the nature looked for; this he could not presume to say—for the petitioners themselves tell you that they do not yet fully understand them. They only know this, that as far as they possibly can judge of their effects they tend to ruin their trade. Neither they nor Mr. Glennie have as yet a precise and distinct knowledge of them, with all their various clashing enactments, and the multitude of alterations and retouches they have undergone. Therefore their anticipation of the measure itself could not be very distinct. It was however with safety pronounced by Mr. Glennie and other witnesses, to be much of the same nature with the measure as it eventually came out. Upon this subject, Mr. Mann concurs in corroborating what Mr. Glennie had stated; and mentions a set of cant phrases which were in people's mouths on the subject, disrespectful to the United States, and which I will not repeat. Mr. Mullett tells you that many mercantile men, within his own knowledge, regulated their transactions in their trade, by similar confident expectations

generally entertained a few weeks before the Orders came out, and communicated their feelings to him and to their correspondents according to those apprehensions."

"Now sir, if this news was so generally and so confidently circulated in this country, it is not surprising that it should have found its way across the Atlantic while the intercourse still subsisted with America. Accordingly it appears from the evidence of Mr Martin, and Mr. Kinder, that it did so travel. Mr. Martin tells you, that on the 12th of November, he wrote a circular letter to his American correspondents, which letter was received on the 12th or 13th of December, but he believed the 12th; in this he stated, "it is strongly reported that it is the intention of our government to extend the system of blockade to France, and the respective States on the Continent under her influence, prohibiting from entrance into any of their ports, all vessels whatever, unless such as have last cleared from Great Britain and her dependencies." Mr. Martin has since received advice that one of the vessels by which the circular letter went, arrived on the 12th, or not later than the 13th of December. He tells you that the act of the embargo was issued on the 22d of December. Besides this, newspapers were produced and extracts read from them, particularly by Mr. Kinder, to show the various copies circulated in America of the paragraphs which appeared in this country, stating the confident expectation of those measures in England and describing pretty accurately what those measures were to be. One of these descriptions indeed is so accurate, that I believe there has not been, even to this hour, a much more correct general outline given to the public of the system in question, than this which thus appeared in a newspaper printed at New York, and dated the 15th of December.—Again, on the 14th of November, it appears that Mr. Munroe left this country, and he arrived at Philadelphia the 14th of December, on which day his secretary set out for Washington, and arrived there previous to the 17th. The New York paper to which I have alluded, stated that the "English government have not issued their proclamation declaring France and her dependencies in a state of siege, and prohibiting all intercourse with them, except directly from a British port, it not having received the signature of the king: a private letter from a Member of Parliament mentions that it would be published in the gazette of the 14th." In like manner a Philadelphia newspaper says, "a proclamation is, we understand, in readiness for his Majesty's signature, declaring France and all her vassal kingdoms in a state of siege, and prohibiting all intercourse with her or them; all entrance into her or their harbours, except such as had last cleared from a British port." This is an extract from a London newspaper, dated November 10 and Mr. Bell has also one of the 18th, from New York, purporting to be an extract from a Liverpool paper of the 13th of November. It states, "an Order of Council is in the gazette of Tuesday last, declaring the whole of the ports of France, Italy and Holland, and all under the influence of France, in a state of blockade, and which will be rigorously enforced. I have stated that Mr. Munroe's Secretary arrived at Washington on the 16th or 17th of December, and upon the 20th, a message comes from the President to the Houses of Congress upon the subject of this strange intelligence. They sit for many hours and deliberate with closed doors.—Upon the 22d of December, late at night, it was, and not till then, that the embargo upon American vessels was first issued as a legal measure.—Here then we see, sir, that the Orders in Council, or something very nearly resembling them (so near indeed that when we have got the Orders themselves, we have had nothing more illustrative given us as a sketch of the spirit of them) were accurately known by the President, and by the Congress of the United States of America, upon the 18th of December, being three days previous to the issuing of the embargo in the American ports. This is the plain matter of date and fact—If it be said

that this measure of embargo was adopted suddenly (a charge which I think cannot be attributed to it) I answer that if it was to be done at all, it behoved to be effected with vigour and promptitude, the very moment the government of that country perceived it was called for by the measures which we had adopted. As soon as this unexampled attack upon their navigation, and encroachment upon their privileges was known—nay, the instant that this unheard of aggression was suspected to be in our contemplation, the United States were obliged, not to resent it, indeed,—for it had not yet attacked them—but at least to provide against its certain effects, by some measure of precaution. Therefore, I say, let it not be argued that the suddenness of this precautionary measure—a measure in its very nature sudden and applicable to an unexpected and pressing emergency—affords any ground for believing that the Orders in Council were not the occasion of it."

We now come to the statement brought forward to demonstrate the capabilities of America becoming a manufacturing country, aided by British capital, necessarily detained in that country, for want of a mode of remittance, by sending produce to the British or European continental market. The present restrictions give a high premium in favour of American manufactures, and must, if the present system be persisted in afford to them most decisive support. We particularly recommend to our readers a close attention to the accounts of American resources here given. It may tend to remove many dangerous prejudices. The physical strength of America was formerly despised in these countries, and yet they triumphed by the establishment of their independence. A second act of the same tragedy or farce, appears to be now in rehearsal, and it depends in great measure on the wisdom or folly of British statesmen, how the present momentous crisis will terminate. Whether instructed by former errors, they will learn to relax in time, or by a pertinacious adherence to ill-concerted, and ill digested plans, finish the chapter of "All in the Wrong." We sincerely lament the unfriendly disposition, and the symptoms of hostility so frequently manifested both in conversation, and through the medium of the press, in these countries, towards the United States, and dread this issue will be productive of no good to our best interests.

"Let us look then to the consequences of this state of things. Your capital, to this amount of eight millions, must remain in the United States; but whether it is to remain there idle or not is another consideration. Will Congress, for the sake of giving encouragement to trade and manufactures, make some enactments in the nature of your orders in council? Will they, after the manner of those precious measures, prohibit manufactures, embargo their towns, and stop the internal commerce of the country, by warnings and visitings? Will they as you would, I verily believe, in their place, issue some twenty orders to lock up the capital, which I have stated England has made them a present of, and prevent its being employed until the intercourse with Europe is restored? No, no—they will not copy you so close—they will give their trade and manufactures every facility—they are rather better politicians than the wise framers of your decrees—they will foster this capital and make it conduce to truly beneficial ends, not by such orders in council as yours, but by measures really adapted to the encouragement of trade, aye, and let me tell you, sir, to the purpose of "retorting upon England the evils of her own injustice." For you will see this capital producing new branches of agriculture and of internal trade; new banking and other monied schemes; new manufactures, which have never before been thought of, for this plain and simple reason, because their capital was never adequate to the arduous task, and what little capital they had found other means of employment in purchasing the produce and manufactures of our country.

"The contrary of all this, however, is confidently expected by those great statesmen, who framed the orders in council. They pretend that our ma-

nufactures never can be supplanted; that they must be had by all nations; that happen what will they must find their way to a market. And truly I must say that this would be a comfortable doctrine if it were not already falsified by much experience: not only by the effects of commercial blunders in other countries, but by the operation of our own navigation act, a produce of wiser and better times; a measure well deserving the title of encourager of trade. The effect of this celebrated system upon the trade of Holland and other States, should admonish you, that it is possible for the staple industry of a country to be taken from it, and to be forced into other channels. The carrying trade of the world, the money traffic, in all its branches, insurance, banking, loans, stock, in short, every part of the large commerce which the Dutch had monopolized for ages, and with pretensions as superior to your's, as your present claims to a monopoly of manufacturing industry are above those of your neighbours; all this staple and exclusive commerce was, if not destroyed, at least shaken to pieces by an act of the really wise, and effectual promoters of English trade, who once sat in this house, and England became prematurely possessed of what Holland lost. The staple of Holland was thus suddenly forced into the channel of England, many years before the transference could have been effected in the natural course of things. Let us then learn from that encouragement which it is the just boast of our own navigation system to have given to our commerce, this lesson of experience, that it is not impossible to counteract nature and shift the seat of arts, by the force of political arrangements. I might prove this still further by the effects of another boasted part of your commercial policy, the wool laws.—I might illustrate it by referring to the whole histories of Spain, France, Italy, or to former periods of our own history. But, sir, not to go to other countries, upon the present occasion, it is sufficient for me to allude to the evidence which I have brought to your bar, bearing directly upon the case of America.

"The testimony of Mr. Kinder and Mr. Pollock will, I think, be esteemed decisive upon this point. It has always been supposed that when hands are cheap, and money plenty, commerce and trade will be encouraged, and not till then; but let it be remembered that America has been both increasing in hands with an unexampled rapidity, and accumulating money by the beneficial effects of a long interval of peace, which she has wisely and happily enjoyed. The public institutions, the manufactories, and the plans for the general encouragement to trade, have in that country been for years past visibly upon the increase. Their banks at present amount to 73; their insurance companies to 43; the interest of money has fallen from 12 or 20, to 6 and 7 per cent; capital is so heaped up, that it is common to meet thirty men possessed of £50,000, on one exchange. Four miles from any town, lands were two years ago sold at 500 dollars by the acre, a much higher price than is known in Middlesex itself. An emigration has been of late years perceived to take place from the Northern to the Western part of the country, where the land is cheaper. Nay, they have even a considerable number of manufactories already established, they have, upon some occasions, been able to export to other countries, and have so evidently begun their own market, that some of the witnesses at your bar, found themselves cut out of it by the competition of home-made goods. The result of the whole is, that we have given up a part of our capital for the purpose of enabling the Americans to establish trades and manufactures of their own, and that if we continue to force it into this employment, by our foolish measures, we shall soon find ourselves generally and permanently forestalled in the American market by their home-made goods.

"I am far from saying, sir, that these unquestionable facts ought to alarm this country, if measures be taken really capable of fostering our own trade, or at least leaving our industry to itself, and letting that of others alone, instead of those schemes, whose only tendency is to

stunt our commerce and make American manufactures emulate our own. I only prove that it is in vain to talk of this competition as a thing impossible.—I tell you that it is blind to say there is no such danger.—It is foolish to say that the poverty and cheap land of America will prevent all rivalship from growing up, do what we will to force it.—I tell you it is an idle security to suppose that our preference in the American market is of so steady a nature, and will be of such lasting duration, that no force or change of circumstances can wrest it from us. By the testimony of those who have visited that part of the world, and but yesterday seen the most interesting spectacle of a growing nation, that the eyes of man can behold, it appears that its manufactories are rising, and its capital accumulating. In addition to this it appears by the evidence now upon your table, that you have forced no less than eight millions of your capital into the same channel, in order, as it were, to secure—to perpetuate the rivalry of America, and while you exclude her from all intercourse with Europe, to render her more and more independent of yourselves. It is surely not unreasonable to suppose that under such circumstances she will turn the part of your capital which you have lent her, nay compelled her to keep in her hands, into channels which may subvert our traffic both with her and the rest of the world.

"Again, I beseech you, sir, to recollect that I do not say America will do all this naturally; if left to herself she may for years and years confine herself to agricultural pursuits; but I have shown you her capacities for other employments; I have proved that she is even on the brink of manufacturing in a good measure for herself; I say she will do so to any extent if you drive her to it; and I here again warn you how you rashly do that against your own commerce, which no power on earth but yours can ever effect.—Not let any one think that the rivalship, which I am anticipating, would terminate with the emergency that gave rise to it. Even after that peace should be restored, which some persons fondly dream of as a possible event, it is in vain that you will look for the re-establishment of those peaceful and prosperous employments which former treaties have brought back to the country. The whole Continent may be subdued by the arms of your allies, and its commerce destroyed by your fleets; you may cease to have a rival in power, or in wealth from one extremity to the other of Europe—After dictating a peace to the world, you will seek in vain for the restoration of the trade which your vigour shall have suspended; it is destroyed if it is suspended. You will find raised up by your jealousy and violence, a rival to your prosperity, on the other side of the Atlantic—a great nation, filled full of capital by your measures, and forced by them to be the first manufacturers in the world. You will then no doubt be immediately repaid those eight millions sterling which the Americans now owe you, for it is a common and a just remark, that successful traffic produces honest dealing. But what will be the consequence of having allowed that capital to accumulate, at compound interest, by its employment in such channels? Let us think of this, sir, and look to all these things when we are confiding in our own folly, and blindly hoping that in wilfully cutting ourselves out of every one line of industry, which has made us a rich and powerful nation, we shall still, God knows how, preserve our influence and wealth!

"Sir, it is not now for the first time that this topic has been broached in the House of Commons. The very same argument was once before put to you upon a memorable occasion. In the spot where I unworthily have now the honour to stand before you, there stood some forty years ago, one of the greatest men that this or any other country has ever produced. When the celebrated Dr. Franklin appeared in this place, by the desire of the house, during the discussions relating to the repeal of the stamp act, a variety of questions were put to him, touching the state of manufactures in the colonies of England. He was carefully asked his opinion

upon all those points which I have feebly attempted to examine on the present occasion. It was put to him again and again.—"Do you think it possible that the Americans can enter into a non-importation act? Is it possible for them to change their habits altogether and at once, from political motives?"—The answers of that great man were equally consistent and decisive, and if the house will permit me I shall take the liberty of reading them, as they are in fact good evidence upon the question now before you, the whole being entered on your journals.—And I call upon you to hear them with the attention due, not merely to the authority of him who spoke them, but to a prophecy despised, and alas too fatally fulfilled. Therefore it is that I presume to repeat what was then told you, and to caution you against giving the cause of the petitioners now at your bar the same unhappy reception.

"One of the questions put to Dr. Franklin was this, "Is it the interest of the Americans to take those goods?" (meaning the produce and manufactures of this country.) He answered, "The goods they take from Britain are either necessaries, mere conveniences, or superfluities. The first, as cloth, &c. with a little industry, they can make at home; the second they can do without till they are able to provide them among themselves; and the last, which are much the greatest part, they will strike off immediately. They are mere articles of fashion purchased and consumed, because the fashion in a respected country, but will now be detested and rejected. The people have already struck off, by general agreement, the use of all goods fashionable in mournings, and many thousand pounds worth are sent back as unsaleable."—Again, "Is it their interest to make cloth at home?" "I think," said Dr. Franklin, "they may at present get it cheaper from Britain, I mean of the same fineness and neatness of workmanship, but when one considers other circumstances, the restraints on their trade, and the difficulties of making remittances, it is their interest to make every thing."—In another part Dr. Franklin was asked, "What are the body of the people in the colonies?" *A.* "They are farmers, husbandmen, or planters."—*Q.* "Would they suffer the produce of their land to rot?" *A.* "No: but they would not raise so much. They would manufacture more and plough less."

"And so it is that *these petitioners* say the Americans will now do. They know that the Americans are chiefly occupied in pursuits of husbandry, because they are furnished by America with the produce which they manufacture for that country, for this country, and for all the world: they know that if you continue to stop the trade of the Americans with the Continent, and consequently with ourselves, so as to throw the produce back upon the hands of the growers, it will not rot any more than it would have done in Dr. Franklin's day; they tell you the Americans will keep their cotton if you prevent them from exporting it, and will work it up; they—these petitioners presume to repeat the language of that illustrious man, and tell you the Americans will manufacture more and plough less.—The concluding sentences of this memorable testimony are all that I shall now trouble the house with.

Q. "What used to be the pride of the Americans?"

A. "To indulge in the fashions and manufactures of Great Britain."

Q. "What is now their pride?"

A. "To wear their old clothes again till they can make new ones."

"Sir, it is the fate of men, that they are more prone to take lessons from their own experience than from precept, or even from the example of others, but I will venture to say that it is *the experience* of this country, to which I am now appealing—an experience too recent to be forgotten, too momentous—alas, that we should dare to neglect such lessons! This it is that has so powerfully backed the authority of the great name which I have quoted to you; and thus supported, I devoutly wish it may make you more cautious how you reject these petitioners than your predecessors were, within the same walls, when that gloomy prediction was first offered at your bar, and was by them, I tell you, despised because of its gloominess."

We conclude our extracts from this

interesting work by quoting the cogent reasoning and forcible ridicule adduced against the flowery oratory of our Secretary for Foreign Affairs, an oratory which he has since used in his diplomatic correspondence with the agents of the American government, which instead of convincing or conciliating, has tended only to irritate, and we fear, to widen the breach. The flippant style of a political Anti Jacobin Reviewer, is ill adapted to the grave and sober discussion between states, on great and momentous concerns.

"In answer to all our arguments, and in order to quiet the fears that are manifestly spreading over the country, we are told that the operation of the Orders in Council will put an end to the unnatural state of things which the enemy has established upon the Continent, and will force open the channels of trade now stopped up by him. If any thing in the possible consequences of these measures could give your petitioners a shadow of expectation that the ports of the Continent would be opened, and that the direct trade with it would again be established, most unquestionably, as they would have been the last to trouble you, had any such hopes remained to them, so they would even now leave your bar contented and cheerful, if you could, by any proof or argument, give a colour of truth to such pleasing prospects. But when they look to the history of the conquest of Europe, and to its present state, or view what is indeed, the same thing, the events of the French revolution, they can indulge in no such views.—After resisting so many violent shocks from without, and so many convulsions within—after passing through every sort of revolution—all the varieties of situation—uniform in nothing except the constant increase of calamity, public and domestic—after having suffered all this without attempting a complaint, or even breathing a murmur against the tyrant of the hour—when faction was raging in the West, and the enemy not always beaten in the East—after such scenes as these, and such incitements to rebellion utterly failed to create, during eighteen years of revolution, a whisper that could be heard from the people—I say, after all this, you desire us to expect that the scarcity of sugar, or a rise in the price of tobacco, or the difficulty of procuring cotton, should throw all France into a flame—bring out the seeds of lurking rebellion—draw forth the population of our enemies in array against their ruler—make them with one loud voice demand the revocation of the Berlin decree—and force the governor of France himself to sue for peace.—That such mighty things should arise from such little causes I am far from pronouncing to be impossible; but I lament that I have been quite unable to make my clients agree with me, or, by any such efforts, to comfort them under the ruin of their affairs, which they never cease proving to me by the dry details of their legers and day-books, as often as I unfold to them the pleasing views to which I have been alluding; nor indeed can I find any one to back me in urging such consolation to them.

"The petitioners have further been told by some persons of airy fancy and loud talk, that by this great act of self-denial, (a magnanimity considerably cheaper to those who preach it up, than to the poor petitioners who are desired to practice it) we shall assuredly make known in the most remote corners of the earth (even in places where the form of a ship has never yet been seen*) the power and the glories of the British Navy. It seems, that in proportion as sugars become higher in price, or as the people on the continent find their coffee becoming rougher, the gallant form of a vessel shall begin to dawn on their untutored minds. Growing by degrees more distinct, what ideas must it raise, as the sweets vanish! When at last the coffee too disappears, and the peasant wholly changes his breakfast of foreign luxuries into one of milk or wine, then indeed will he descry our whole fleets and navies, and tremble at the name of England—and thus shall the enslaved people of the continent speedily revolt against the

* This is supposed to allude to the eloquent speech of Mr. Secretary Canning, in which he recommended the orders in council as a great and promising experiment; and predicted that this curious effect would result from them.

yoke of France.—This topic of consolation, sir, I have also tried with my clients. But I have been again met with their plaguy account books and dry details of profit and loss. They tell me bluntly enough, "All these fine fancies are nothing to us if they do not give us back our American market, which has by the grand measures of government been taken away. We ask back our traffic, —our buying and selling, our livelihood. We are plain men—merchants, manufacturers, and workmen—and we care not if one half of Europe never heard of the British Navy, nor knew there was such a thing as a ship—nay, nor knew there was such a country as England—provided that half were consuming our produce and wearing our manufactures. Let the British Navy and name be as unknown in the heart of Poland as it is in the desarts of Kamschatka—but, for pity's sake, give us back that trade, the sole means of our subsistence—the sole object of our desires—the only thing our literal imaginations ever dream about."

"Sir, I greatly fear, that dull as it may be, you must give these men some other answer to their complaints than the lively and elegant ones which I have been alluding to. I strongly suspect you must, in order to satisfy the people, make out some case for the new measures which shall be adapted to the grovelling capacities of the nine hundred and ninety-nine plain matter of fact men who inhabit the country, whatever flighty things you may hear from the thousandth wit.—For unhappily our customers on the continent have fallen under the dominion of a matter of fact man, who works with stubborn tools, and won't suffer his vassals to rebel for the sake of a point, *He* does not rule them by the love of sugar and coffee, and indeed cares little whether the interesting peasants ever see such things or no. *He* does not leave them to form ideas of a French soldier, by raising the prices of goods, "in places where a soldier was never seen."—He chains them with chains, and drives them on with bayonets—and sends half a million of strong men to execute his orders—and having done so, he troubles himself but little what his vassals say about colonial produce—or what orders you issue from your council, even if you should make them as intelligible as his own."

We trust that some of our readers will not be displeased with the length of these quotations. The subject is important, and we fear many treat it too lightly. As in similar cases, some may suppose that America is of no further importance, than to be made subservient to our selfish interests. The haughtiness and selfishness of Britain is a favourite theme on the continent of Europe, and turns the tide of popularity against us. Let us be wise in time. America may be conciliated, but cannot for any great length of time be bullied by us. In our humble capacities we wished to contribute our efforts to change the current of public opinion in favour of justice and sound policy. Popular feeling, properly directed and temperately urged, cannot fail to have some influence on the conduct of Government. In the beginning of the war with America, which ended in the independence of that country, the popular cry was in favour of coercion, and popular opinion differently directed, produced the peace of 1783. We have raised our voice against recurring again to coercive measures. Whether matters are already accommodated with America, or are in a train of being so speedily, it is difficult to ascertain; but even should a temporary accommodation take place, unless we cherish a spirit of peace towards them, no long time will elapse before mutual irritations may again arise. We trust, therefore, that our labour will not be lost, in thus having devoted so many of our pages to the attempt to promote a spirit of peace and reconciliation. K.

The Cottagers of Glenburnie, a Tale for the Farmer's Inglenook. By Elizabeth Hamilton, 8vo. 1 vol. p.p. 408. Edinburgh, Ballantyne & Co. 1808.

TO review a book which has already passed through three large editions with universal approbation, may appear superfluous, yet several reasons induce us to undertake the task. Though the book in question be written purposely for the improvement of the Scotch peasantry, yet in